



"Fight the good fight of the faith.
Take hold of the eternal life to
which you were called when you
made your good confession in
the presence of many witnesses."
- 1 Timothy 6:12

FIRST CHRONICLES
March, 2025
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“Then David said to Saul, ‘I cannot go with these, because I have not tested them.’ – 1 Samuel 17:39b

Have you ever worn something that was too big or too small for you? Growing up, I wore a lot of “hand-me-down” clothes and they were often a little too big for me. I’ve also forgotten about clothing in my closet and when I brought it back out, I found that either they shrunk or I had grown. Sometimes we can be equipped with things that don’t fit us that well. When we are, we have to decide what to do with that equipment.

David dealt with the same problem. We all probably know the events of David and Goliath and how everything worked out. But we may not be as familiar with what happened immediately before these events. When David volunteered to fight Goliath, he was brought to Saul’s tent. After a brief exchange where Saul doubted David’s chances for success, verses 38-39a say, “Then Saul clothed David with his armor. He put a helmet of bronze on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail, and David strapped his sword over his armor. And he tried in vain to go, for he had not tested them.”

Saul did what we are apt to do. When we know the task that lies ahead of someone, we give them the equipment that we’re used to—that we’ve used and has proven effective for us. But what works for ourselves does not always work for other people. We can be equipped with tools that we know will work—but we fail to remember that these tools work not only because of their versatility but also because of our experience with them. A sword in Saul’s hand at this time was more effective than in David’s hand. Conversely, a sling in David’s hand was more effective than in Saul’s hand. A Bible devotion tool may be very effective for myself but may be ineffective for you. This is true with prayer, worship, confession, evangelism, and any other tool for our faith as well.

But we should also notice another important aspect to this situation. David didn’t reject Saul’s armor and sword because they were of no use to him. He specifically said in the verse above that it was, “because I have not tested them.” In the moment, David relied on the tools he knew. That’s what we’re called to do as well. But after this, he took the time to learn new tools—to test them and become proficient in them. After all, David would go on to fight many battles in his life using his armor and a sword. He didn’t run into battle with a sling and a stone every time. So while all equipment may not fit us in the moment, that doesn’t mean that it will always be useless to us. We must take the time to learn it and practice it so that we can use it when we need it.

The encouragement this month is to be equipped. Even if we’re not used to the tool, we shouldn’t ignore it. The better equipped we are, the more effective we will be in our faith and the more we will grow in our walk with God. It may take time to learn the tool, but the end will be worth it. Be equipped! ☺

In Christ,
Jesse

OUR SCHEDULE!

| GREETERS | NURSERY WORKERS | CHILDREN'S CHURCH |
|---|---|--|
| Sunday, March 2 Greg & Lesli Kramer | Sunday, March 2 Judy Eben | Sunday, March 2 Sarah Gruis |
| Sunday, March 9 Steve & Anna Jean Schneiderman | Sunday, March 9 | Sunday, March 9 Katie DeBoer |
| Sunday, March 16 Janice Schneidermann | Sunday, March 16 Terresa Wagenaar | Sunday, March 16 Rachel Kramer |
| Sunday, March 23 Dennis & Gracia Schrick | Sunday, March 23 Donna DeBoer | Sunday, March 23 Kayla Reck |
| Sunday, March 30 Stan & Crystal deBoer | Sunday, March 30 Alyssa den Hoed | Sunday, March 30 Abby Kramer |



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|-------|----|---|
| March | 2 | Payton Arends Mary Kramer (Daryl) |
| | 5 | Marcee Ruddy |
| | 6 | Jim Douglass Bob Kruse |
| | 9 | Phil & Trisha Jacobson |
| | 10 | Stan & Crystal deBoer Dane Arends Rachel Kramer |
| | 12 | Brylie Johnson |
| | 13 | David & Mary Eben Steve Arends |
| | 14 | Phil Jacobson |
| | 15 | Cooper Kramer |
| | 19 | Greg DeBoer |
| | 21 | Kase DeBoer Breanna Schrick |
| | 24 | Gayle & Carolyn Wagenaar |
| | 26 | Greg Kramer |
| | 27 | Jolene Ackerman |
| | 28 | Dave Busse |
| | 29 | Bradley Kramer Sharon Douglass |
| | 31 | Daniel Gruis |



From Craig and Maureen Moody:

In December Craig and Maureen packed up their apartment in Younde, Cameroon, said goodbye to friends, and moved back to Calgary, Canada. Maureen is continuing her work as the acting NAB Cameroon field director but will only visit Cameroon for face-to-face meetings two times per year. The bulk of her work continues unchanged as most of the work is done via email, WhatsApp and Zoom. Craig was also kept busy as Rain Forest International School director of Administration and Finance.

The Cameroon Baptist Convention (CBC) is sending out national missionaries to remote areas and to least-reached people groups in Cameroon. They currently have 39 national missionaries. God is blessing this work in exciting ways. One missionary experienced the collapse of the temporary structure of the fledgling church he started. When the missionary and the church members decided to build a permanent structure, the people of the village and the chief's representative told them they would have to make a sacrifice to the god of the village, or they would not be permitted to build there. The missionary and church members knew they could not make this compromise, so they gathered at the church site for an all-night prayer session. In the morning the villagers came to the site and told the group they could build the church - no sacrifice to the gods were required. They stood firm. God heard their prayers and rewarded their steadfast commitment. Pray for the CBC leadership - that God would grant them strength, wisdom, and effectiveness in their work. Pray that the conflict would come to an end in Cameroon.

Mission Board

Thank You So Much

Thank you, folks, at First Baptist Church for your prayers, cards, and well wishes for Harold when he was in the hospital. Thanks also for the beautiful floral arrangement he received. Your visits to the hospital and since he's been home have been great. Your kindness and care will always be treasured.

- Harold & JoAnn Schneiderman

March 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----------|---|---|-----------|--|-----------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 COMMUNION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Discipleship U | 3 | 4 | 5 6:30 PM Awana 7:00 PM Youth 7:00 PM Visitation | 6 | 7 7:00 PM World Day of Prayer | 8 |
| 9 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Camp Spaghetti Dinner | 10 | 11 7:00 PM Ladies Night 7:00 PM Deacon Board Meeting | 12 6:30 PM Awana 7:00 PM Youth 7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study | 13 | 14 7:00 PM Union Gospel Mission | 15 |
| 16 MISSION SUNDAY 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Discipleship U | 17 | 18 | 19 6:30 PM Awana 7:00 PM Youth 7:00 PM Visitation | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 9:00 AM Sunday School Bell Choir 10:00 AM Worship Baby Dedication 6:30 PM Discipleship U | 24 | 25 | 26 9:30 AM Good Sam Worship Service 6:30 PM Awana 7:00 PM Youth 7:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting and Bible Study | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 BUILDING FUND SUNDAY 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM Discipleship U Bday/Anniv Celeb | 31 | Baptism Class March 2-23 | | | | |